

Intimations.

NOTICE.

LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE CO.

THE BUSINESS of this COMPANY has This Day been Transferred to THE MARINE INSURANCE CO., of 20, Old Broad Street, LONDON.

By Order of the Proprietors,
WILLIAM HUNT,
Secretary.

137, Leadenhall Street,
LONDON,
1st January, 1877.

THE MARINE INSURANCE CO.
20, Old Broad Street,
LONDON,
1st January, 1877.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000 STERLING.
RESERVE FUND, £340,000

WITH Reference to the foregoing Advertisement, THE MARINE INSURANCE CO. has This Day taken over the Business of the LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT CO., and has Appointed Mr. A. MUIVER as its AGENT in Hongkong.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
ROBERT J. LODGE,
Manager.

THE Undersigned is prepared to Accept Risks and Issue Policies on behalf of the MARINE INSURANCE CO. by any First Class Steamer.

A. MUIVER,
Agent of the Marine Insurance Co. of London.

Hongkong, February 16, 1877. au17

AH YON,
SHIPS' COMPTROLLER AND STEVEDORE,
No. 57, Praya Wen.

SHIPPING SUPPLIED WITH ALL KINDS OF COAL, WATER, BALLAST, FRESH PROVISIONS & OILMAN'S STORES

Of the best quality and at the shortest notice.
Hongkong, May 1, 1876.

NOTICE.

WE, the Undersigned, beg to inform the Public of Hongkong and Kowloon that the Charter of our Steam-launch **UUM SING** (plying between Pedder's Wharf and Tsim-sa-choi), by Mr. Buxton, will expire on the 30th instant, after which date the said launch will ply on the same route on our own account; having no connection whatever with the late Charterer.

The Fare will be as usual until further notice.

WING KEE & Co.,
Praya Central.

Hongkong, April 30, 1877. my30

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

ROSINA, American 3-m. schooner, Capt. C. W. Hansen.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

ROSETTA McNEIL, American barque, Captain Brown.—Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.

NYASSA, British ship, Captain W. S. Garriock.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.

TULLOCHORD, British 3-m. schooner, Captain Mason.—Wilder & Co.

HANNAH LAW, British ship, Captain R. Groig.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

VESTA, German barque, Captain R. Dirks.—Melchers & Co.

HANNAH & MARY, British barque, Capt. A. Smith.—Order.

TWINSBURY L. SWEAT, American barque, Captain Wm. Griffin.—Meyer & Co.

WASHING BOOKS.

WASHERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use of Ladies and Gentlemen, are now ready at this Office.—Price, \$1 each.

CHINA MAIL Office.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR SAIGON.

The British Steamship **"PLINTHIRE"**, Captain THOMAS, will be despatched for the above Port on the 28th instant.

For Freight and Passage, apply to
AH YON,
57, Praya.

Hongkong, May 24, 1877. my26

FOR FOCHOW (DIRECT.)

The British Steamer **"BENARTY"**, Captain FORT, will be despatched as above on MONDAY Next, the 28th instant, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, May 24, 1877. my26

FOR NEW YORK.

The 41 American Ship **"HIGHLANDER"**, HURSTON, Master, will load here and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.

Hongkong, May 24, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB will be held at the VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB HOUSE on THURSDAY, the 31st instant, at 5 o'clock p.m.

H. E. WODEHOUSE,
Hon. Sec., P. R. C.

Hongkong, May 24, 1877. my31

To-day's Advertisements.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship **"TANASIS"**, Captain REYRIE, will be despatched for YOKOHAMA shortly after the arrival of the next French Mail.

H. DU POUEY,
Agent.

Hongkong, May 24, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship **"AMAZONNE"**, Comdt. MONTMAYE, will be despatched for SHANGHAI shortly after her arrival from Europe.

H. DU POUEY,
Agent.

Hongkong, May 24, 1877.

THE CURRENCY MEMORIAL

TO HIS EXCELLENCY
JOHN POPE HENNESSY,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG.

IN Brief, the Memorial draws attention to the unsatisfactory state of the Currency, and requests that no Legislation may be made which would jeopardize or postpone the advent of a clean, undenominated British Dollar for Hongkong, which it is understood that every one in the Colony, Native as well as Foreign (the Shroffs alone excepted) earnestly desires.

The original Memorial, to which have been attached the Signatures of over 180 Bankers, Merchants, Professional Men, Engineers, Manufacturers, Traders, and others, lies at the Office of Messrs SHARP & Co., Bank Buildings, where Printed Copies may be obtained.

Copies also lie for Signature at several of the Banks, Clubs, Stores, and Hotels.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

May 24, Leicester, British ship, 1800, Caddy, Newcastle (N.S.W.) April 16, Coal.

May 24, Rhoda, British barque, 252, S. Vincent, Bangkok April 30, Rice.—CHINESE.

May 24, Gryfe, British ship, 1068, Theo. Roberts, Cardiff Jan. 17, Coal.—DORCAS LAPRAIK & Co.

May 24, Michelle Scholau, British barque, 447, O. Gerstenberg, Bangkok April 24.—ORDER.

May 24, Hieronymus, German barque, 428, C. Biehl, Bangkok, April 20, Rice.—Wm. PRUST & Co.

DEPARTURES.

May 24, Adria, for Bangkok.

24, Washi, for Haiphong.

CLEARED.

Cheung Hock Kian, for Amoy.

Deutschland, for Newchwang.

Onward, for Newchwang.

Villa de Rivadavia, for Manila.

Nyassa, for London.

Gustav, for Macassar.

Gustav & Marie, for Haiphong.

Thingwalla, for Saigon.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per Adria, for Bangkok, 137 Chinese.

Per Washi, for Haiphong, 20 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British ship **Leicester** reports: Sighted St. Johns May 1st. Babyan Claro on the 19th. Crossed the Equator May 3rd in Long. 152.24 E.

The British barque **Rhoda** reports: Light S.E. wind in the Gulf of Siam, and as far as Cape Padaran, thence light southerly winds and thick weather with a current setting South.

The British ship **Gryfe** reports: Winds light and variable up China Seas until 20th May. Since then wind from S.E. to S.W. On 22nd and 23rd heavy rain with squally weather, and much thunder and lightning, on 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

On 24th gentle breeze and fine.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:—

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.
The United States Mail Packet **COBANIC** will be despatched on MONDAY, the 28th instant, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, and the United States, which will be closed as follows:—

2 P.M. Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 P.M. Post-Office closes.

2.30 P.M. Correspondence for Japan or the United States only may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 12 cents extra Postage until

2.50 P.M. when the Mail is finally closed.

Correspondence must be specially directed for this route, and if not fully prepaid will be sent by British Packet.

Hongkong, May 15, 1877. my28

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.—

The English Contract Packet **GWALIOR** will be despatched with the Mails for Europe, &c., on SATURDAY, the 2nd June.

The following will be the hours of closing the Mails, &c.:—

Friday, 1st June.

5 P.M. Money Order Office closes.

6 P.M. Post Office closes except the Night Box, which remains open all night.

Saturday, 2nd June.

7 A.M. Post Office opens for sale of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and Posting of all correspondence.

10 A.M. Post Office closes except for Late Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.

10.15 A.M. Letters may be posted with Late Fee of 18 cents extra

Postage till

11 A.M., when the Post Office Closes entirely.

11.30 A.M. Letters (but Letters only, addressed to the United Kingdom Via Brindisi or to Singapore, may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage, till

11.50 A.M., when the Mail is finally closed.

Hongkong, May 28, 1877. je2

Shipping Intelligence.

The following is corrected from the latest London Papers:—

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

AT HONGKONG.

When left. Name. From. Remarks.

28, Western Chief, London

28, Bessie, Cardiff

17, A. E. Vidal, Hamburg

22, Sophie, New York

4, C. R. Bishop, London

12, Woodhall, Hamburg

12, Hope, London

18, Batavia, Hamburg

1, Robert Henderson, Burryport

2, Polynesia, Cardiff

5, Carrizal, Cardiff

8, Daphne, London

12, Leading Wind, Antwerp

17, Theresa Behn, Cardiff

18, Mathias, Cardiff

19, Ocasus O., Cardiff

19, F. P. Lichfield, Cardiff

19, Malpu, Cardiff

20, Penrith, London

22, Enid, London

22, Osaka, London

27, Gold Hunter, Cardiff

28, D. McE. Park, Sunderland v. S'pore

28, Janet Ferguson, Glasgow v. S'pore

1, Isles of the South, Cardiff

1, Brown Brothers, Cardiff

1, Khedive, Antwerp

2, Paracas, Cardiff

3, Davis, Cardiff

4, Nimbus, Cardiff

4, Jala, Cardiff

6, Lord Macaulay, Cardiff

13, Golden Spur, Cardiff

15, Antwerp, London

19, Victoria, Swansea

19, C. W. Cochrane, Liverpool

20, Springfield, Cardiff

20, Warrior, Cardiff

20, George, Cardiff

22, Biding (s.), Cardiff v. Suez, &c.

26, May Queen, Cardiff

27, Seindia, London

27, Fortuna (s.), Antwerp v. Suez, &c.

29, Commissary, London

30, Cygnus, Cardiff for Canton

30, Elgin (s.), London left S'pore

4, Rota, Cardiff

4, Sydenham, Cardiff

5, Priam (s.), Liverpool via Suez

7, Kaskow, London

10, St. Elmo, Cardiff

11, E. S. Sandford (s.), Cardiff v. Suez, &c.

12, Galates (s.), Cardiff v. Suez, &c.

AT SHANGHAI.

23, John Nicholson, New York

27, Undine, London

Jan.

11, Windhover, London

31, Forward Ho, London

Feb.

22, Belled Will, London

28, City of Aberdeen, London

Mar.

3, Caller Ou, Card ff

10, Sir Laurence, London

10, Coldstream, New York

24, Wigton, London

28, Isle of Erin, Greenock

Apr.

6, Cora, London

AT AMOY.

16, Bessie Morris, Swansea

Dec.

23, Ino, Greenock

Mar.

7, Ab. Stie, Cardiff

LOADING FOR CHINA AND JAPAN PORTS.

At London.—Steamers via Suez Canal.

Nankin.

Glenohoty.

Amboto.

Glenohoty.

At Amoy.

Duke of Abercorn.

James Shepherd.

Kate Carnie.

At Liverpool.

Disposed (str.)

Titao.

General Memoranda.

SATURDAY, May 26.—

Noon.—French Mail leaves for Ports of Call and Europe.

3 p.m.—Nanua leaves for Coast Ports.

them good-bye, we took our way once more along the narrow path out on the precipitous hills which flank the river on both sides. We gradually got accustomed to seeing a sheer fall of many feet on one hand and nothing to catch hold of on the other but surface-deep plants and weeds. Now and then a bridge, to call small things by great names, made us wish that in youth we had acquired the *grand montagnard* on some treacherous Alpine path. A gap of anything from ten to twenty feet in breadth by about six feet (we omit fractions) in depth, spanned by three narrow planks, is sufficiently uninviting to people who have not been trained to rope-dancing. On one occasion we found the middle plank quite rotten away at the further end, so that the iron rivet which held the three together was exposed to view, and we experienced a violent rush of blood to the head as we stopped there a moment over the gulf below to adjust our feet carefully on the two exterior planks, which were sound. We found, however, that the will could exercise considerable control over this rush of blood, and in response to a determination not to let it confuse our thoughts, we felt it begin gradually to subside. In less dangerous places, three bamboos are usually tied together and thrown across, and the naked foot of the local mountaineer finds no trouble in stepping lightly across. But beneath the barbarian boot, these bamboo poles always feel as if they must turn round, besides being smooth and slippery enough to make the passage across anything but comfortable and secure.

24.—This morning we arrived at the *Ta-feng-pien* rapids which are considered among the most dangerous of all about here; so that a proverb has sprung up and is now widely used in the Chiao-chow department by numbers who are quite ignorant of its origin. It runs thus:—

"Lose a pole, and you're back to Sam-ho-pah."

Shih yih kau chuan chui San-ho-pa.
For the stream is so swift just at this point that much valuable time would be lost if one of the boatmen dropped his punt-pole into the water. The usual application of the proverb is to any arduous undertaking in which the least slip would be fatal.

Having had unseasonably hot weather up to to-day, we are now treated to a temperature which calls for a thick great-coat at breakfast. Yet these wonderful boatmen make no change in their costume unless it is to wrap up their heads in a blue calico turban, leaving their legs and backs well exposed to the pitiless north-easter which makes us delicate mortals shiver again. From one year's end to the other they seem never to put on either shoes or stockings; but, somewhat contrary to our notions, they are very careful to keep their heads as warm as they can. Tradition says that the turbans worn by the natives in this part of the empire were first put on at the opening of the present dynasty, when, sullenly submitting to the Manchu power, they sought to hide the hated badge of slavery—the shaven head and plaited tail which the victorious Tartars imposed upon the conquered race.

Meanwhile we are slowly passing a seven-storied octagonal pagoda with a small red temple at its foot sacred to the God of Literature, from which point the hills on both sides recede inland and leave us to wind our way through an open and apparently fertile plain until we reach Sung-kou where they again take their place on either bank of the river. The chilly air has a tendency to sharpen the appetite, as we remark during five minutes' conversation with the "man at the wheel," but this infallible guide assures us that the phenomenon is due to the amount of wood all round us, which causes digestion to take place more rapidly than usual—and we bow forthwith to his decision. For is he not a child of the same soil that produced the sages of antiquity? And did not those sages examine closely into the nature of things and deduce certain fixed laws to remain unchallenged for all time? But we have thrown an apple of discord on to the boatmen's dinner-table—the deck. They have taken up the theory of cold weather increasing the appetite and are talking for their very lives. And as we are rather in the proverbial trade to-day, we will just mention a saying apropos of the long tongues of these Hakka boatmen.

"Three Hakkas and three Chiao-yang men will take enough to stan you."

San-to K'ei-jin, san-ho Ch'iao-yang-jin
tau kau hin sze jin.

But as Mark Twain observed, when he was told that a vessel of 1000 tons was bearing down on them, that "800 tons would be sufficient for him," so we feel it a duty to state that peradventure two Hakkas would be enough to do the trick without any Chiao-yang men at all. Which digression are quite diverting our attention from the extraordinary looking village of Sung-kou, which one would certainly say had just been burnt out by a fire, so blackened and smoky are its houses, and walls. The curious feature is the height of the houses, nearly all being of three and many of four stories. They are evidently poor miserable tenements, with the single exception of the local pawnshop which flaunts its huge sign on a lofty and well-kept upper wall. We stop here a few minutes only and then pole slowly up stream before a large and rowing crowd. The washer-woman almost drops her baton with astonishment.

"Lion rests upon his wheel."

and youthful Hakkas scream and shout with excitement. There is an end, however, to all panoramas, and we were soon snatched from their eager gaze, to gaze very shortly ourselves upon the hill-side where they say may be traced the lineaments of a beautiful woman. But we gazed and gazed in vain. Perhaps the lady was shy and would not show herself to strangers, though that excuse will not hold good for the gentleman on the other side of the water, whose features were equally indistinct.

At this point we met long rafts of wood coming down with the stream upon their difficult and dangerous course. They say at Swatow that there are three hard trades for a poor man—

1. Managing rafts.
2. Carrying young fish to stock ponds.
3. Cutting ruel on the hills.

In the first trade the illusion is to the cumbersome and unmanageable nature of the rafts; which are often of immense extent and very difficult to manage. To carry young fish is necessary to keep up a very tiresome jogging motion so that the water in which they are kept shall be well shaken about; otherwise the fish will die. In the third case the full-cutters cut away all day until he is thoroughly tired and hungry; and then he has to carry a heavy load home.

(To be continued.)

Shanghai Courier.

CELEBRITIES AT HOME.

(Works.)

Victor Hugo in *Paris* by RUS DE CINCIN.

His life has been as full of antitheses as his style. He went from Paris to the Channel Islands—that is to say, from the most animated part of animated Nature into almost monastic seclusion—and finally he left his retreat to return to Paris once more. In Jersey and in Guernsey he was necessarily left very much alone. A man who before his exile could never without a stratagem have secured an evening to himself passed whole weeks and months in comparative seclusion, with none but his family around him, and with only the sea to answer his voice in the outer world. The varied strength of his character is attested by the manner in which he bore the change. The literary cry for the desert is generally insincere; and few great men who retire from the crowd can be cast into a long lingering look behind to see if they are not followed by a portrait-painter or a sorcerer. If Victor Hugo himself did the same thing, nobody saw him. On it were, from the night of public notice into its noontide blaze, and Paris has ever since been trying to make up by her impetuosity of hero-worship for the enforced neglect of years. His servants would save themselves a great deal of fruitless trouble by keeping his door wide open; for there seems to be a tacit understanding among Frenchmen of all classes that it shall never be shut. The ordinary arrangement seems to be as much out of place as a padlocked gate before a popular shrine.

The fact is accounted for by his varied relations with the world. He is a dramatist, a writer of romance, an artist, an orator, a poet, and a politician; he seems to touch public life at all points. Ere the last lover of literature retires from his threshold, the first Republican constitution arrives. He has been obliged to take rigorous measures of self-defence. You may go to his house in the morning, as men do go, but you could hardly see him to save your life. You would not, indeed, catch him napping, for he is up betimes; but he would be locked in his study, putting touches, perhaps, to the manuscript of *La Légende des siècles* in the marvellously clear hand in which it is sent to the publisher. His letters, by the way, are scrawls; it is only his "copy" that is like a sheet of print. In the one case, the burden of responsibility for his meaning rests with the person addressed; in the other, with the writer. It would be your misfortune if you missed a line in an invitation to dinner; it would be his if the composer left out a single antithesis in an invocation to Paris as the Light of the World. A home-loving man, he has still a family about him in the second generation, though Death has dealt so cruelly with the first, and the prattle of his children's children, especially of *petite Jeanne* his favourite, is to be heard in the house. They lead their life; he, his, during those hours devoted to composition. It is understood that he is to be kept free from all intrusion until breakfast-time, or to render it by its true equivalent for English readers, until lunch. He may, however, obtain an extension of leave by prolonging his fast. The meal is served by one, and all are summoned but the master. No one ventures to disturb him. His underdone cutlet is there; if he comes in to time, he has it hot; if not, he very contentedly eats it stone-cold, sometimes at three or four in the afternoon. When he is late, they guess that it is because he is in the vein, and will not; or cannot, leave his task. He invariably makes but one sitting of it: he is unable to write a line after he has tasted solid food.

He might be tempted to linger in his study for another reason: from the moment he comes out of it he ceases to belong to himself. The world seizes him in a grip as tight as that of the picture in his own fable of natural history. There is only one regulation of the police might say, to "divide the crowd." If you want to speak to him on literature, it is generally understood you come in the afternoon; if on politics, in the evening; but, to tell the truth, the distinction is one rather of form than of fact. Nothing is easier than to evade the rule; you have only to make your errand things in general, and you may go at any hour.

A young writer has just brought out a book, and he has received his own copies from the publisher. Some he keeps for himself, others he gives to his friends, and one is laid aside for the *doyen* of French literature, Victor Hugo. He gets his introduction, and away he goes to the Rue de Clichy, a sort of connecting-link, one might say, between luxurious Paris and the Montmartre quarter. He wonders a little at the choice of such a busy thoroughfare for a song-bird's nest—a thoroughfare for second-hand furniture shops and third-rate *cafés*, with a new skating-rink right opposite to the poet's door. The house is built in flats, in the usual style of Paris, and it has many tenants, but there is no one to ask questions at the porter's lodge. The man knows in a moment whom the visitor wants. He has the indescribable manner of those domestics who are used to receiving a crowd—who are not only servants, but guardians of a temple. He reads the inquiry in a look—"Victor Hugo?" He does not wait to hear it—"On the third floor, monsieur; the door to the right." The buxom woman-servant of mature age who answers the ring has the like qualifications for her office. She is as adroit in divination of character and objects as the man who opens the door at the doctor's, and who distinguishes between the patient and the friend at a glance. Our pilgrim is shown into a back drawing-room, and there he finds—perhaps a little to his mortification—that he is not alone in his errand of homage and pious regard. There is hardly a vacant chair.

If a Frenchman, he makes the acquaintance of every other person present in a twinkling; if a foreigner, he probably retires into a corner and makes the acquaintance of the furniture. In either case he could hardly be more agreeably employed. The room is characterised by a sort of other luxury of decorations; its walls and ceiling are tapestried in a low-toned crimson, which affords sufficient relief to its cabinet of black oak, and something more than sufficient to its candelabra of burnished gold. Simplicity is a relative term, and this is simple for Paris: no more can be said.

Presently, an old gentleman with silvery hair enters, and all rise. It is Victor Hugo. The first effect of the face is most peculiar: you seem to see the high forehead and nothing else—for one reason, perhaps, because the lower features are permanently hidden by the crisp white beard. His features with a slight stoop, and slowly

moves among his visitors with a peering glance, as though he were engaged in the vain effort to identify them by the names on their cards. When he does speak, his manner is found to be perfect. He has the most unostentatious gracefulness of his twofold patent of nobility, social and intellectual; for, in spite of what the wise say about the modernness of his title in the French peerage, now long laid aside, the name he bears has been a good one, as the world's estimate goes, for over three hundred years. He has the benign smile of his age, the gentleness and the complete absence of self-assertion of his assured position in the public regard. His speech is eminently simple in form; he seems incapable of an epigram—no doubt because he has just made so many hundreds in the other room, and he wants a rest. The morning crowd dismissed, he goes out to take the air. It is rumoured that he likes no way of taking it so well as to jump on an omnibus, and to do the whole journey out and home with the panorama of the crowded streets before his eyes. Sometimes, but not very often just now, he takes the train for Versailles on senatorial duties intent. He missed the right one the other day when they were electing a brother senator, and arrived five minutes too late with a vote that might have saved his party from ultimate defeat by turning the immediate contest into a draw. He was twitted for it, but more by his triumphant enemies than by his best friends. "Why try to make men of 'Whigs' can they be expected to know the flight of time? They look at the zodiac, not at their watches." It is fair enough as a hit in party warfare, but outside of that it is of no force whatever in its implication of censure of this over-busy life.

At seven he enters dinner. He is always punctual, this being his first hour of true mental relaxation. He has friends at the board every day, and their talk makes the meal the holiday-time of his spirit. He seems to keep open house for those he likes. Go on what day you may at this hour, and you find a party sitting down to table. The talk is a finely-blended salad of good things, soft and piquant, in literature, politics, music, the drama, and even art, for Victor Hugo is no mean hand with the pencil. Politics has the first place; it is a veritable little parliament; and, since there are *nois* instead of speeches, it is much more entertaining than Versailles. It may be likened rather to a periodical Tea-room meeting, at which the course of one session of the House is determined in advance from day to day. The key to much that passes in the Hall of Assembly in the afternoon is to be found in what was said in this little dining-room the night before. The host leads—not more by reason of his position at the board than of the substantial value of his advice. He enjoys a high and a deserved reputation among his party for his temperance and common sense in counsel and for his tactical skill. He knows when to charge, if his speeches and political writings show that he does not always know how to do it. In debate his genius is apt to run away with him, and he is a poet before anything else. The happiest combinations are those which he inspires without attempting to lead. The meal is commonly a long one, but probably no one rises from the table without feeling that it has been too short. Not a single precious moment has been wasted in *ennui*: the presence of Victor Hugo, and notably of Victor Hugo's daughter-in-law, whom he has just lost by her marriage with a Radical deputy, M. Lockroy, serving as a standing security against that worst evil of life.

Long before the dinner is at an end fresh pilgrims have begun to assemble, in the smaller drawing-room, for the evening reception, and the host has to make short work with his dessert. When the process of identification is completed, they are invited to enter the *salon*—furnished in a lighter style than the other apartment, but still on the same principle, of the absolute exclusion of mere white from ceiling or wall. Mirrors are plentiful—it is a French house; and the many coloured ornaments of the Venetian frames harmonise well with the tapestry. Presently the throng is increased by the contingent from the dining-room, and then the scene becomes one of great animation. The apartment is crowded with striking figures, but there can be no question as to which is the most striking of all—that white-haired old man who, in spite of his seventy-five years, is still inconceivably the greatest spiritual force of France. Nothing can be more unjust than to accuse him of vanity or the greed of homage, as is sometimes done. His bearing is modesty itself; he simply cannot get away from his admirers. Here, for instance, in his own drawing-room—where, if anywhere, a man should belong to himself—he has but just left a group of deputies when a young actor holds him with his glittering eye, and will not let him go again until he has heard one of his own *oeuvres* repeated *soixante fois* from beginning to end. Come in and catch him listening, without knowing the antecedent circumstance, and you might say that he was snuffing incense kindled by a match from his own pocket; but you have only to be better informed to see that he is conferring an immense favour out of pure goodness of heart. This young actor is absolutely unknown; he is understood to belong to distant Bordeaux or Avignon; but having an ode of the poet to recite at a *fête* this day fortnight, it has occurred to him that he will run up to Paris to have the author's interpretation of a difficult line. It is but one line, and yet he has come these miles to have the answer. A light-hearted people? Not at all; they are terribly earnest in what they deem the serious business of life. "Should it be thus, or thus, or thus?" and by turns he goes through the elocutionary pantomime of warning, entreaty, or command—*Jove* the while most seriously inclined to hear, and at length deciding for the last with a murmur of "Comme ça." It is a pretty picture, and unique of its kind, for perhaps nowhere else in the world would a man of Hugo's eminence be so readily accessible to a boy who is only an actor, whom nobody knows. His mission accomplished, the young fellow has the tact to offer to retire—no matter what their position, good breeding is in the marrow of their bones—but the other will not hear of it. "Restez; soyez le bien-venu; vous êtes chez vous!" And now it is a Jersey man who has the reversion of his button-hole—an Anglo-Frank; speaking both languages with equal ease, who was one of the faithful few that stood by the exile in that deplorable business of the expulsion. Let him make haste; for here are four poets—yes, positively four, and all well known to fame—waiting for his judgment on a happy

point of metre. Too late in any case; place *aux dames*: a beautiful *débütante* in opera has just entered the room. "Bonsoir, maîtresse; but you must have forgotten me," and she raises her hand to her lips. "Mon enfant, after I had once seen you how could I ever do that?" Republican as he is outside, he is king in this drawing-room in spite of himself—king, not more by virtue of his genius than of his chivalrous *bonté de cœur*. He is the most content because he is the most loved, and his state is endurable only because one never wearies of the reverence of the heart. Of mere glory surely he must have had more than his fill; from his youth up he has been recognised as one of the foremost writers of France, and his beginnings of distinction date from so far back that he might almost make a second *Légende des siècles* of his own personal reminiscences of fame. Lamartine tended the flame at which he lit his poetic torch; he was the *enfant sublime* of Chateaubriand. We may regret that at times he "gave up to party" what was meat for mankind, since all the world has had its part in that loss; but we had better make haste to forget it, or we shall be anticipated by his countrymen, who are the principal sufferers, and who are far more united than they would sometimes have us believe in the honour they pay to his person and his name.

WHAT THE WORLD SAYS.

I hear of a great scandal at the Foreign Office. A person who has been allowed to act as an agent for consuls and others serving abroad is said to have bolted with a large sum of money, confided to his charge. I hope we have now heard the last of these Foreign Office agencies, and that this will be the end of the consular service anything more injurious to the high tone which ought to pervade the consular service than the belief prevalent throughout it that the employment of a Foreign Office agent is necessary in order to obtain advancement, or even leave of absence.

I believe I may confidently assert that at the end of the present Session Mr. Hardy will resign his portfolio as Minister of War, and retire to the comparative ease of the Upper House. His successor will probably be Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, but on this point I cannot speak with certainty. If Colonel Stanley were a better debater, he would be the right man in the right place as Secretary of State for War.

The following is the opinion of a very distinguished French cavalry-general on the next war: "If the war is general, we shall abandon Nancy, defend ourselves behind the Meuse, and meet the Germans in Belgium. If the war should unfortunately again be a mere duel, then, if it occurs within the next three years, we can only fight behind the Meuse on the line of Sedan, Toul, Belfort. In three years this line of fortresses will be finished. We shall then try to fortify the frontier itself and to hold Nancy, although personally I think that Nancy will always be untenable."

I hear that two very opposing currents of opinion struggle with each other in Paris about the "retreat" of Prince Bismarck. One side positively declares that the mighty Chancellor withdraws because he is unable to lead his imperial master to declare war against France. The other side asserts with equal certainty that the Prince recedes to Varzin because he is unable to prevent the same imperial master from declaring war against France. Under these circumstances, I remember distractedly the title of an article which appeared seven weeks ago in the *World*, and I exclaim, "Which?" Unless, indeed, it should happen to be the 53d at Birr barracks the other day by the Duke of Connaught, the regimental band played "The Evening of the Green" for the marching past parade. This spirited air used to be interpreted as treasonably felonious in Ireland a few years ago. If, as I have reason to believe, H.R.H. directed that it should be struck up by his directly right, there is nothing like taking the bull by the horns; but what will melodious malcontents say to this appropriation of their music by the Saxons? I warrant they will hail it with pleasure.

Through constantly walking in one direction round the hall (he being unable to turn and turn about like Weston), O'Leary has the muscles of one leg contracted, and a drop of at least three inches of the shoulder on the same side. The curious may be interested to learn this is the result of walking 520 miles, with 26 abrupt turns at each mile always swung in the same direction. Once or twice O'Leary tried to reverse his way of walking, and turn his right hand to the enclosure; but a couple of laps were enough at a time. It would seem if there could be no choice in this matter; there was all the difference which exists between winning and losing in it.

The following appeared in the papers of a midshipman undergoing examination at Portsmouth for his sub-lieutenancy:—"Q. Demonstrate the resistance developed by a galvanometer when connected with a Daniel cell. A. The dimensions of this most remarkable state-prison have not been handed down to posterity. It is, however, generally supposed to have been 40 ft. x 30 ft. x 20 ft., and filled with lions. How the lions got there will probably never be explained. It is one of those things no person can understand, and is a remarkable proof both of the courage and the scientific knowledge of these heathens. The lions are now dead. So are the folk who put them there. *Sic transit gloria mundi*."

The student was plucked—which seems to me hard lines.

I am asked to publish the following story: A certain Mr. Wall has entered into partnership with Mr. Frank Bodda—best known to fame as the husband of Miss Louisa Fry—for the purpose of obtaining penalties from persons who unwittingly sing songs in public in which they claim a copyright. Their claims are an annoyance, and sometimes something more; but the story which reaches me shows that the partners can do something more than annoy. It appears that an amateur concert was given in the schoolroom at Harlesden for the benefit of a railway porter who is lying in a hospital ill with rheumatic fever, who has a large family depending upon him. At the concert one of the amateurs sang "Sweet spirit, hark my prayer." Mr. Wall straightway wrote in the name of Mr. Bodda to demand a "penalty" for this heinous offence. Thereupon a letter was written to Mr. Bodda explaining the circumstances, pleading inadvertence, and asking for a remission of the penalty on the ground of the poverty of the family out of whose pockets it must come. That appeal was returned to the writer and a letter to the same purport sent to Mr. Wall. He answered by a statement that the object of the concert was an immaterial point; and

that if a sovereign were not paid forthwith, legal proceedings would be taken. Rather than go to law about the matter, the promoters of the concert paid the sovereign; but I cannot say I envy Messrs. Wall & Bodda the receipt of it. I am very tempted to wish that the matter had been fought out in the law-courts, for the legality of these demands appears to need some better basis than the dicta of Mr. Wall.

A curious story reaches me from Philadelphia, which I recommend to the notice of sensational novelists and melodramatic authors. A Mr. Gardiner of Burlington, Wis., posted a letter to his brother at Detroit in 1835. The brother had left Detroit, the letter followed him; the brother had moved again; again did the letter follow, and unavailingly pursued its object over the entire continent of America for some years. The business was then given up, and the epistle was deposited in the dead-letter office at Washington. There it lay until last year, when it was shown at the Centennial Exhibition, and moreover seen, claimed, and obtained by the person to whom it was originally addressed. It unfortunately contained nothing more romantic than 300 dollars; but placed in it the missing link proving the heirship to the vast estates, produce it in the third volume or the fourth act, the *Dead Letter* should run into a tenth edition or for five hundred nights!

A rather curious story is *à propos* of the Boat-race, about an old gentleman who, for the last twelve years, was in the habit of taking a 1000 to 1 against the chance of a "dead heat." This bet has been yearly laid him by the same individual (who annually received a P.O.O. for it). The poor old fellow died this year a fortnight before the race.

Surely something might be done to prevent the publication of the letters of criminals under sentence of death. The sheriffs have a certain amount of authority, and I could wish that they exercised it. When the filthy brute Fisk was awaiting execution, his performance in this line are eclipsed by the letter which appeared in the Birmingham papers of Saturday. One Baker is lying under sentence of death in Warwick goal. His case is a common one. He was living with a woman of dubious, or rather of not dubious, character. She preferred some one else, and he murdered her. Since his sentence, Mr. Baker has paid great attention to the exhortations of the prison chaplain, and the result is seen in a letter which is perhaps the most nauseous outpouring of cant that has ever been offered to the world. Mr. Baker is quite convinced of his eternal happiness, and, in his own words, he fully expects to "hear that joyful sentence, 'Come, ye blessed of My Father, and inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' The rest is too shocking for quotation; but I can only say that if this is the state of mind produced in murderers by the unremitting ministrations of the goal chaplain, it is a most unsatisfactory, and one which ought to be kept out of sight as much as possible. Greasy piety, scraps of hymns, forgiveness of those who told the truth about a vulgar crime, and lamentations over the want of tobacco, make a rather disgusting mixture.

The King of Sweden, one of the most accomplished monarchs of our times, is enjoying himself at Heidelberg. Happy man! He does not trouble about the Eastern Question, but occupies his mind with "search of deep philosophy, Wit, eloquence, and poetry."

His Majesty is a wonderful linguist—for a Majesty; talks English, French, German, and Italian fluently and with elegance. While yet Crown Prince he sent in a metrical rendering into Swedish of *La Gerusalemme Liberata*, signed only with a motto, to a literary society of Stockholm, and carried off the laurel of victory from all competitors. He is studious, simple, and much liked; but he is not so popular as his frolicsome brother and predecessor. But this human nature died nearly ninety years ago Benjamin Franklin died. He left a legacy to the town of Boston of 1000*l.*, with a request that the Bostonians should be devoted to aiding young mechanics to get a start in life. He hoped that there would be always a sufficient number of "virtuous and benevolent citizens" in Boston, "willing to bestow part of their time in doing good to the rising generation by superintending and managing this institution gratis." The fund has fructified, amounting now to about 40,000*l.*; but the Boston mechanics have never profited by it, for lack of "virtuous and benevolent citizens" to administer it gratis. At last, after an interval which cannot be called too short, an attempt is about to be made to carry out Franklin's intentions. An application is to be made to the Supreme Court to substitute the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association for the benevolent citizens constituted by Franklin, but who appear to be conspicuous by their absence. The affair is not very creditable to the citizens of Boston, and furnishes a disagreeable commentary on the admiration which they profess for the memory of their great townsman and one of the fathers of their Republic.

THE EARLY DAYS OF MR SIMS' REEVES.

John Sims Reeves was born at Shooter's Hill, in Kent, on October 21st, 1822. Showing a great aptitude for music in his earliest years, his father, himself a musician of no mean ability, fostered and encouraged him in every way, so that the natural genius he possessed might not die for lack of nurture. This provident care, acting upon a mind willing and able to receive, had so good an effect, that at a very tender age the future tenor had already mastered the mechanical difficulties of several musical instruments, string as well as wind, besides making himself acquainted with the less interesting but no less valuable study of theory. The beauty of his voice as a child won for him many wealthy and powerful friends, who supplemented the aid his father could offer by furnishing masters to instruct him in various educational matters, musical as well as ordinary. These friends, in return, were accustomed to invite their acquaintances to listen to the performance of their prodigy, which even in those early days was held to be something extraordinary. When his voice broke, or changed from "a childish treble" to a more manly quality, he redoubled his study of the organ, and before he was fourteen years of age he acquired sufficient skill to qualify him for the post of organist of North Cray Church. The importance of this position for one so young was fully felt by those as much as by him who held it, and all sorts of means were taken to secure and assiduous study, in order that he might maintain the position in which he was placed with dignity to himself and honour to those who had recognised his budding talent. But a change was to

come "o'er the spirit of his dream." In enforcing the precepts to the choir under his charge a certain amount of practical example became necessary, and in giving these examples young Sims discovered he had a voice. His father, and other experienced friends, found also that that voice was of a fine character and quality. Probably because he feared to trust his own judgment, or because he thought that needful instruction for the training and the development of the voice would be better regarded when imparted by a stranger—one whose position was calculated to command respect—the father of young Reeves placed him under a teacher of singing who was so far mistaken in his judgment of the character and quality of his young pupil's voice, that he treated it as baritone, and gave him exercises calculated to be of advantage to a voice of that compass and register. The strong love for things dramatic induced him to resign his post as organist, and in due course to make his easy as a vocalist. When he was scarcely eighteen years of age, he made his first bow before an audience. The Theatre Royal at Newcastle was the scene of his *débüt*, and here, as at one or two other theatres in that circuit, he played such parts as the Count Rodolpho, in Bellini's opera "La Sonnambula," and Dandina, in Rossini's "Cenerentola"—parts for a bass or baritone voice—with marked success. —*Cassell's "National Portrait Gallery."*

THE BRAINS OF CRIMINALS.

In our last issue we published a very interesting letter from our Vienna Correspondent, in which a brief summary was given of Professor Benedict's researches on the brains and skulls of criminals. The subject is an important one, both from a physiological and a psychological point of view and it is to be hoped that more extended and more precise inquiries will be made upon it, for the results which Dr. Benedict has obtained, though very important, are not sufficiently numerous to warrant any large induction. Up to the present time Dr. Benedict has examined the brains of sixteen criminals, all of which, on comparison with the healthy brain, he finds to be abnormal. Not only has he found that these brains deviate from the normal type, and approach toward that of lower animals, but he has been able to classify them, and with them the skulls in which they were contained, in three categories. These consist in (1) absence of symmetry between the two halves of the brain; (2) an excessive obliquity of the anterior part of the brain or skull—in fact, a continuation upwards of what we term a sloping forehead; (3) a distinct lessening of the posterior part of the skull in its long diameter, and with it a diminution in size of the posterior cerebral lobes, so that, as in the lower animals, they are not large enough to hide the cerebellum. In all these peculiarities the criminal's brain and skull are distinctly of a lower type than those of normal men, and the interesting question arises, how far are the evil acts of the criminal to be attributed to this retrograde development. Dr. Watts can pardon the vicious propensities of "bears and lions," on the ground that "God had made them so." If he had foreseen these new inquiries he might have felt less hopeful when he bade his little readers not to "let their angry passions rise." The results of Dr. Benedict's researches, if confirmed by further examinations, will do much to shake many beliefs now firmly fixed. —*Medical Examiner.*

"BERKELEY, Sept. 1869.—Gentlemen, I feel it a duty I owe to you to express my gratitude for the great benefit I have derived by taking 'Norton's Camomile Pills.' I applied to your Agent Mr. Bell, Berkeley, for the above-named Pills, for wind in the stomach, from which I suffered excruciating pain for a length of time, having tried nearly every remedy prescribed, but without deriving any benefit at all. After taking two bottles of your valuable pills, I was quite restored to my usual state of health. Please give this publicity for the benefit of those who may truly be afflicted. —I am, Sir, yours truly, HENRY ALFAROS. —To the Proprietors of NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS.—an/19/77."

Quotations.

HONGKONG, May 24, 1877.
OPIUM.—New Patna, cash... \$605
" Old Patna, cash... 570
" New Benares, cash, 565
" Old Benares, cash, 567
" New Malwa, cash, 575
" credit, 580
" Allowance Teels, 4 a 16
" Old Malwa, cash, 565
" credit, 600
" Allowance Teels, 32 a 40
GAMPHOR, 18.50 a 18.60
QUICKSILVER, 59 a 59.50
SALTPETRE, 6.50 a 7.25

Exchange.

Bank, on demand, 3/11 3/11
" 30 days' sight, 3/11 3/11
" 6 months' sight, 4/0
Credits, 4/0
Documentary, 6 months' sight, ... 4/1
Bombay, 230
Calcutta, 280
Shanghai, demand, 75
" 30 days, 74
Bar Silver, 17, dwts. B., 84 prem.
Mexicans, 3
Gold Loan, 25.50
English Sovereigns, 4.98
Australian Sovereigns, 4.93
Discount, 7 a 0

Shares.

Hongkong Bank, 21 prem.
Union Ins. Society of Canton, \$750
China Traders Ins. Co., \$2,450
Chinese Insurance Co., \$220
Yingtau Ins. Association, £1,750 a \$800
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$540
" China Fire Ins. Co., \$142
H.K. & W. Dock Co., 35 % dis.
" K. O. & M. S. boat Co., 8 dis.
Shanghai Steam Navigation, £180
Hongkong Gas Co., \$75
Houkong Water Co., \$65
Chinese Imperial Loan, \$103

Temperatures.

(taken at Messrs. Watson & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)
HONGKONG, May 24, 1877.
BAROMETER—9 A.M., 29.930
Do. 1 P.M., 29.900
Do. 4 P.M., 29.884
THERMOMETER—9 A.M., 76
Do. 1 P.M., 77
Do. 4 P.M., 77
Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M., 75
Do. Do. 1 P.M., 75
Do. Do. 4 P.M., 75
Do. Maximum 78
Do. Minimum 70

Mails.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANÇAIS.

STEAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ,
ISMAILA, PORT SAID, NAPLES,
AND MARSEILLES;

Also,
PONDICHERY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA
AND BOMBAY.

ON SATURDAY, the 26th May,
1877, at Noon, the Company's
S. S. *MEIKONG*, Commandant FOACHE,
with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE,
and CARGO, will leave this Port for the
above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for
London as well as for Marseilles, and ac-
cepted in transit through Marseilles for the
principal places of Europe.

Shipping orders will be granted till noon.
Cargo will be received on board until
4 p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m.
on the 26th May, 1877. (Parcels are
not to be sent on board; they must be left
at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are re-
quired.

For further particulars, apply at the
Company's Office.

H. DU POUY,
Agent.

Hongkong, May 12, 1877. my26

Occidental & Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND
PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED
STATES AND EUROPE,
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CENTRAL

and
UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING
RAILROAD COMPANIES

AND
ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S. S. "*OCEANIC*" will be de-
parted for San Francisco via Yokohama,
on MONDAY, the 28th May, at
3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for
Japan, the United States and Europe.

Connection is made at Yokohama, with
Steamers from Shanghai.

Freight will be received on Board until
4 p.m. of the 27th inst. Parcel Packages
will be received at the Office until 5 p.m.
same day; all Parcel Packages should be
marked to address in full; value of same
is required.

Return Passage Tickets available for 6
months are issued at a reduction of 20 per
cent. on regular rates.

For further information as to Freight
or Passage, apply to the Agency of the
Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.

G. B. EMORY, Agent.

Hongkong, May 15, 1877. my28



STEAM FOR

Singapore, Penang, Point de Galle,
Aden, Suez, Malta, Brindisi,
Ancona, Venice, Mediter-
ranean Ports, Southampton
and London Direct;

Also,
Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and
Australia.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship
GWALIOR, Captain J. C. BAKER, will leave
this on SATURDAY, the 2nd June, at
Noon.

For further Particulars, apply to
A. LIND, Superintendent.

Hongkong, May 23, 1877. j22

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA
OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND THROUGH
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamer *ALASKA*,
will be despatched for San Francisco,
via Yokohama, on FRIDAY, the 18th
June, 1877, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers,
and Freight for Japan, the United States,
and Europe.

Through Passenger Tickets and Bills
of Lading are issued for transportation to
Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San
Francisco, to ports in Mexico, Central and
South America, and to New York and
Europe via OVERLAND RAILWAYS.

A Steamer of the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Com-
pany will leave Shanghai, via the Inland Sea
Ports, about same date, and make close
connection at Yokohama.

At New York, Passengers have selection
of various lines of Steamers to England,
France and Germany.

Freight will be received on board until
4 p.m., 14th June. Parcel Packages
will be received at the office until 5 p.m.
same day; all Parcel Packages should be
marked to address in full; value of same
is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Overland
Cargo should be sent to the Company's
Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the
Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For security's sake, Shippers of Overland
Cargo are requested to endorse on the
Envelope the Marks and Nos. of Packages
Shipped, to correspond with those in their
Bills of Lading.

For further information as to Passage
and Freight, apply to the Agency of the
Company, No. 9, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, May 23, 1877. j25

Insurances.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of
China and Japan, and at Singapore,
Said and Penang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance
granted at the rates of Premium current at
the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES.

JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE.)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant
Policies against the Risk of FIRE on
Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on
Coals in Matched, on Goods on board
Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Har-
bour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Insurances will be re-
ceived, and transmitted to the Directors
for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on
first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single
Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-
posals or any other information, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.

Agents Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, Agents for the above
Company, are prepared to grant In-
surances at current rates.

MELOHERS & Co.,
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY.
(LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on
Marine Risks to all parts of the World.
In accordance with the Company's Articles
of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits
are distributed annually to Contributors,
whether Shareholders or not, in proportion
to the net amount of Premium contributed
by each, the remaining third being carried
to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, April 17, 1873.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant
Policies against Fire to the extent of
£45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored
therein, at current local rates, subject to a
Discount of 20% on the Premium.

NORTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and
Special Acts of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

CAPITAL £2,000,000.

THE Undersigned, AGENTS at Hongkong
for the above Company, are prepared to
grant Policies against FIRE, to the
extent of £10,000 on any Building, or
on Merchandise in the same, at the
usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20
per cent.

GILMAN & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER
OF
His Majesty King George The First,
A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed
Agents for the above Corporation are
prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—

Marine Department.

Policies at current rates payable either
here, in London or at the principal Ports
of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at
current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding
£5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE
COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt
of instructions from the Board of
Directors authorizing them to issue Policies
to the extent of £10,000 on any one first
class risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on
adjoining risks at current rates.

A Discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, January 8, 1876.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE
COMPANY OF MANCHESTER
AND LONDON.

THE Undersigned have been appointed
Agents for the above Company at
Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai
and Hankow, and are prepared to grant
Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, October 14, 1868.

Intimations.

KWONG HING CHEUNG & Co.,
COAL MERCHANTS.

Have always on hand for Sale every
description of COAL at Moderate Prices.

Mr. ARNOLD has been appointed Manager,
and all Orders addressed to him at 57,
Praya, or to Mr. FAT JACK, at 30, Hing
Lung Street, will receive immediate atten-
tion.

Hongkong, March 19, 1877. mcl9

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING IN THE
Chinese Mail.

TWO cents a character for the first 100
characters, and one cent a character
beyond the first 100, for first insertion, and
half price for repetitions during the first
week. Subsequent weeks' insertions will
be charged only one half the amount of the
first week's charge. Advertisements for
half a year and longer will be allowed a
deduction of 25 per cent on the total amount,
and contracts for more favourable terms
can be made.

Efforts have been made to establish
Agents for circulating the Chinese Mail in all
the ports and in the interior of China, all
the ports in Japan, in Saigon, Singapore,
Penang, Calcutta, Batavia, Manila, the
Philippines, Australia, San Francisco, Peru
and other places which Chinese frequent.

When the list of Agencies is completed,
it will be published. Agents have been
already established in most of the above
places, and in important ports more than
one agent has been appointed at each.

CHUN AYIN,
Manager.

Hongkong, February 23, 1874.

W. BALL,
CHINA DISPENSARY.

IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, TOILET
REQUISITES, PATENT MEDI-
CINES AND PERFUMES.

Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness,
and Prompt Attention.

PRAYA WEST, HONGKONG,
Near the Canton Steamer's Wharf.
Hongkong, July 13, 1876.

THE HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL.

THE Circulation of THIS PAPER has
been very much extended. The fol-
lowing are some of its Agents:—

Macao.—Man Chuen Shop.

Canton.—Sing Chuen Native Post Office,
Luen Hing Street; Chui Heung Low Hotel,
Luen Hing Street; Kwong Tin Fat Shop, Yan
Teal Street; Mr. Siu Chuen Fan, Tung Wen
Kwan; Yuen Fong Shop, in front of the
Provincial Treasurer's Yamen; How Yuen
Shop, Small Market Street, New City; Yee
Cheung Photograph Shop, Honam; Kwai
Heung Shop, Sin Cheong, Honam.

Singapore.—Sui Cheong Hong; Woh Shun
Loong Hong.

Amoy.—Chun Cheong Hong, Mook Kek
Street.

Foochow.—Mr. Yui Ching Cheong, Foo
chow Arsenal; Mr. Lum Kwok Ching, Mar-
time Customs.

Shanghai.—Mr. Ng Ching Shun, Mar-
time Customs; Mr. Ho Yue Chuen, Mar-
time Customs; Mr. Chun Sing Hol, Messrs
Jardine, Matheson & Co.; Mr. Kwong
Chuen Fook, Educational Mission School;
and Mow Sing Sang Kee shop.

Ningpo.—Mr. Sung Min Chee, Maritime
Customs.

Hankow.—Yee Hing Hong.

Chefoo.—Yee Shun Hong.

Japan.—Mr. Leong Chun Tong, Mun-
icipal Office, Yokohama.

Saigon.—Wohang Hong.

Singapore.—Ting Kee Hong; Kwong
Fook Sang Hong.

Penang.—Yow Wing Fong; Argus Office.

Calcutta.—Mow Sing Company.

San Francisco.—Kwong Fook Tai Hong.

The above are some of the Agencies;
others will be published, when they are
arranged for. Negotiations are in progress
with the express couriers who carry the
official despatches and Peking Gazette, to
circulate the Chinese Mail in the interior of
China.

Hongkong, March 10, 1874.

NEWS FOR HOME.

The Overland China Mail.
(The oldest Overland Paper in China.)

PUBLISHED AT THE "CHINA MAIL" OFFICE
IN TIME FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Containing from 72 to 84 columns of closely
printed matter.

THIS Mail Summary is compiled from
the Daily China Mail, is published
twice a month on the morning of the
English Mail's departure, and is a re-
cord of each fortnight's current history
of events in China and Japan, con-
tributed in original reports and collected
from the journals published at the various
ports in those countries.

It contains Shipping news from Shanghai,
Hongkong, Canton, &c., and a complete
Commercial Summary.

Subscription, 50 cents per Copy (postage
paid 50 cents.) \$12 per annum (postage
paid \$13.50.)

Orders should be sent to GEO. MURRAY
Baird, China Mail Office, 2, Wyndham
Street, not later than the evening before the
departure of the English Mail Steamer.

Terms of Advertising, same as in Daily
China Mail.

Hongkong, May 8, 1877.

Intimations.

AFONG,
PHOTOGRAPHER,
by appointment, to
H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY,
GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG;
and to
H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS
OF RUSSIA.

Wyndham Street, formerly ATHLETIC CLUB.

HAS on hand the Largest and Best
collection of Views of China, Pho-
tographic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of
assorted sizes. Ex. S. S. Radnorshire a
supply of very handsome Easel Albums of
Russia and Velvet Covers, assorted sizes.
Illuminated Albums for Portraits, Tobacco
Pouches, in Shape of Skulls, Rats, &c.,
and a nice choice of Gilt Mountings for
Frames, &c.

Hongkong, March 28, 1877.

NOW READY.

FIENG-SHUI; OR, THE RUDIMENTS OF
NATURAL SCIENCE IN CHINA. By Dr.
E. J. EITEL. One Volume. 8vo. Price,
\$1.50.

BUDDHISM, ITS HISTORY, THEORY AND
POPULAR RELIGION, in three Lectures.
By Dr. E. J. EITEL. Second Edition. One
Volume. 8vo. Price, \$1.50.

Orders will be received by Messrs Lane,
Crawford & Co.

Hongkong, July 31, 1873.

Now Ready.

"THE CHINA REVIEW,"
No. 5, Vol. V.

Annual Subscription, Six Dollars and
a Half.

CONTEENTS.

Chinese Natural Theology.
Notes on Chinese Grammar.
Door-Stalking in China (Concluded from
page 224).

Chinese Etymology, with a List of Primi-
tives and Key to Shwo-Win.
Brief Sketches from the Life of K'ung-ming.
On the Twenty-eight Constellations.
Short Notices of New Books and Literary
Intelligence.

Collectanea Bibliographica.
Notes and Queries.—
The "King Kiao" or Nestorian Religion.
The Shan of the King of Ch'u.
Tonio Sol-fa Notation in China.
Rats a Delicacy.
Domestic Torture.
Do. Do.
Esop's Fables in Sanskrit and Chinese.

Books Wanted, Exchanges, &c.

China Mail Office,
Hongkong, May 12, 1877.

NOTICE.

FROM and after the Chinese New Year's
day (February 17, 1874) the Chinese
Mail will be issued DAILY instead of tri-
weekly as heretofore. No change, how-
ever, will be made in the price of subscrip-
tion, which will remain at \$4 per annum.

The charges for advertisements are now
assimilated to those of the China Mail.
The unusual success which has attended
the Chinese Mail makes it an admirable
medium for advertisers.

The Conductors guarantee an eventual
circulation of one thousand copies. It is
already the most influential native journal
published, and enjoys considerable prestige
at the Ports of China and Japan, and at
Singapore, Penang, Calcutta, San Fran-
cisco and Australia.

For terms, &c., address
MR. CHUN AYIN,
Manager.

China Mail Office,
17th February, 1874.

TO LET.

THE Dwelling House and Offices No. 1,
D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupa-
tion of Messrs DOUGLAS LAPEL & Co.
The Dwelling House No. 1, Alexandra
Terrace. Possession from the 1st June
next.

Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPEL & Co.
Hongkong, May 16, 1877.

TO LET.

N. O. 3, PRINCE TERRACE, ELGIN STREET,
with Immediate Possession.

Apply to
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, February 7, 1877.

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 10, Albany Road, at present
occupied by the Rev. R. H. KID.
Bisbee Villa, Pok-foo-lum, Furnished.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, February 16, 1877.

TO BE LET.

THE Premises No. 39, Queen's Road,
late in the occupation of THE BORNEO
COMPANY, LIMITED.

Apply to
TURNER & Co.
Hongkong, May 10, 1877.

TO LET.

FIRST FLOOR of No. 31, QUEEN'S
ROAD CENTRAL, Three Rooms. Over-
looking & Co.'s Furniture Store. Imme-
diate Possession.

Hongkong, May 8, 1877.

HONGKONG MARKET PRICES.

Corrected to Saturday, May 19, 1877.
At 1110 Cash per Dollar Mexican.

Butcher Meat.

Bacon, English, . . lb. 450 400
" Ame. Sugar cured, . . 300 280
" Foochow, . . 160 140
Beef, sirloin and prime cut, . . 160 150
Beef Corned, . . catty 150 140
" Roast, . . 150 140
" Soup, . . 100 90
" Steak, . . 160 150
Bullocks' Brains, . . per set 60 50
" Tongue, fresh, each 275 250
" " corned, . . 320 300
" Head, . . 600 600
" Heart, . . 150 140
" Hump, Salt, . . 110 100
" Feet, . . 50 40
" Kidneys, . . 60 50
" Tail, . . 100 90
" Liver, . . catty 80 60
" Tripe (undressed), catty 50 40
Calves' Head and Feet, set 600 400
Hams, American, . . lb. 300 280
" Chinese, . . 180 170
" English, . . 360 340
Mutton Chop, . . 190 180
" Leg, . . 190 180
" Shoulder, . . 140 130
" Liver, . . 130 120
Pigs' Chiddings, . . catty 60 50
" Feet, . . 100 90
" Fry, . . 110 100
" Head, . . 90 80
" Heart, . . 80 70
" Kidneys, . . 80 70
" Liver, . . lb. 100 80
Pork Chop, . . catty 160 140
" Corned, . . 180 120
" Leg, . . 160 140
" Fat or Land, . . 110 100
Sheep's Head and Feet, set 340 320
" Heart, . . each 50 40
" Kidneys, . . 80 70
Sucking Figs, . . 1750 1000
Veal, . . catty 140 120

Poultry.